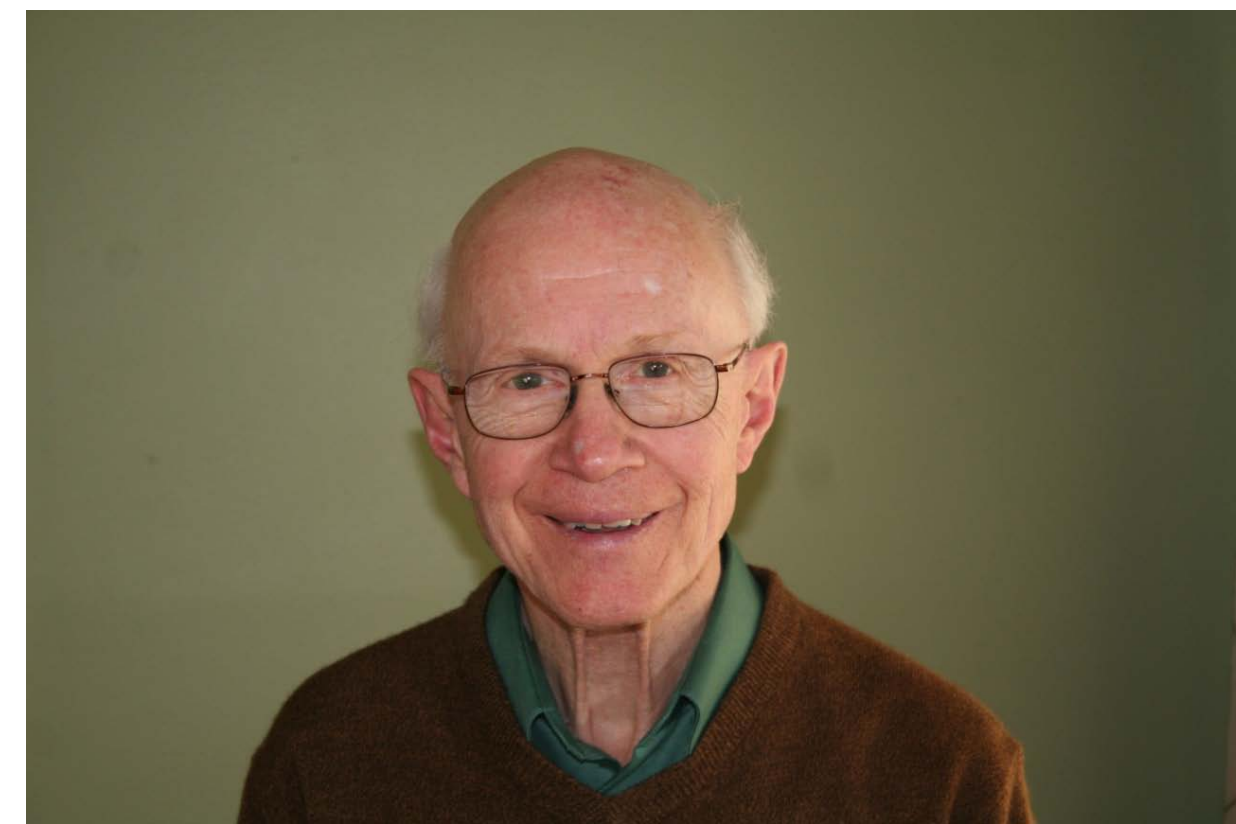


EMERITUS ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP: EMPOWERING REFUGEE STUDENTS TO GO TO COLLEGE

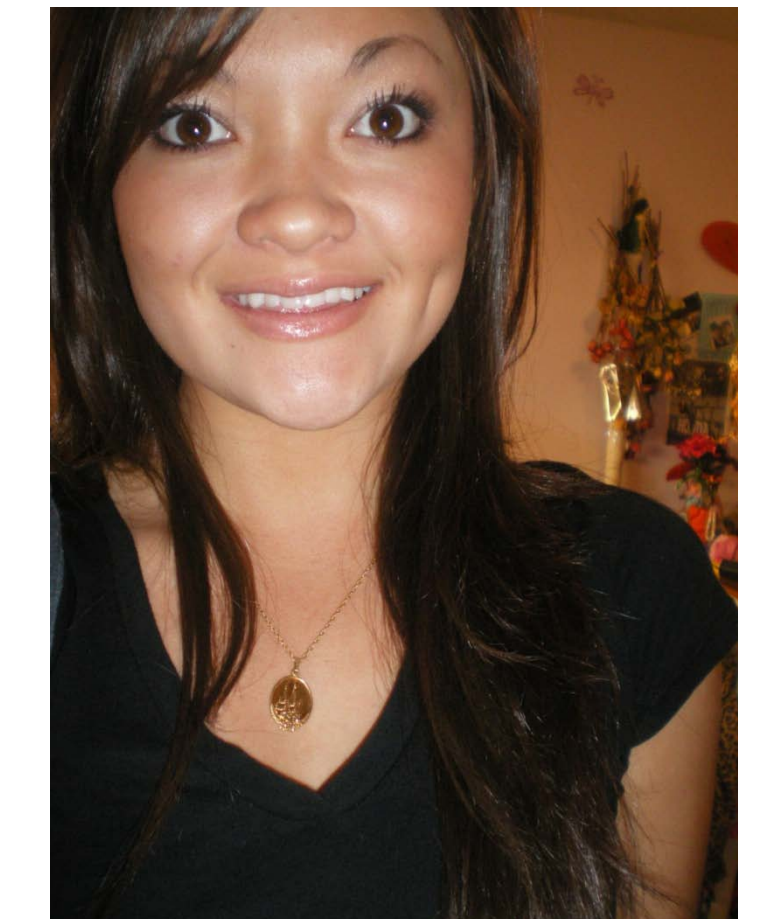
John Bennion, Principle Investigator



Michelle Stimpson, Project Coordinator

Linda Jo Taylor, John Bennion, Michelle Stimpson
Department of Health Sciences LEAP, University of Utah

Linda Jo Taylor, College Mentor
HS LEAP, Health Promotion & Education

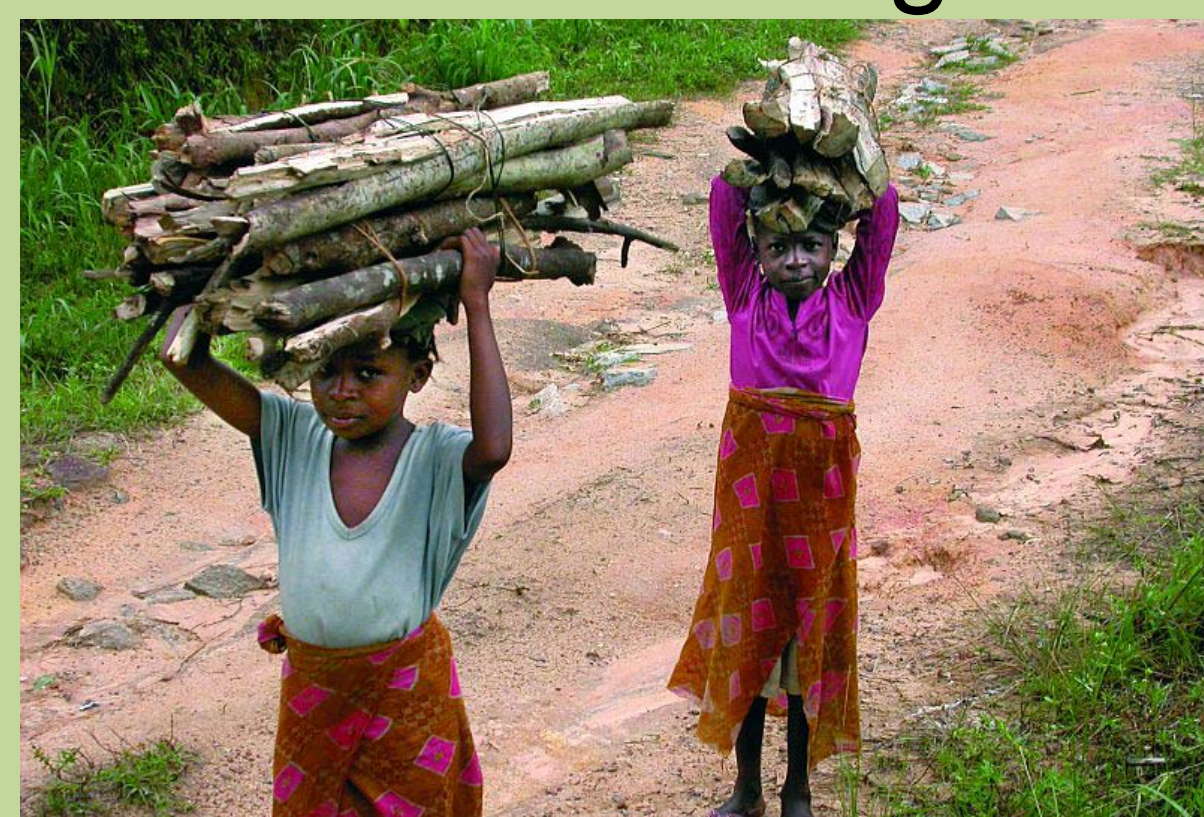


A refugee is somebody that has been forced to flee their country because of past persecution or a well founded fear of future persecution.
—Gerald Brown, Director of Refugee Services

Concern for Refugee students

Exposure to:

- War & Violence
- Refugee camps
- Uprooted from home
- Trauma of leaving relatives



Coming to America:

- Communication challenges
- Economic concerns
- Drastic change of culture

Extra support is essential or else they WILL fall through the cracks

PROJECT BACKGROUND

- 2008-2010 Bryant middle school
- Alumni Emeritus Board: Tutoring Project 7th & 8th
- 9 refugee students
- Presented **POTENTIAL** \$5,000 scholarship
- Requirements: 3.0 GPA throughout high school
- University of Utah tour/luncheon

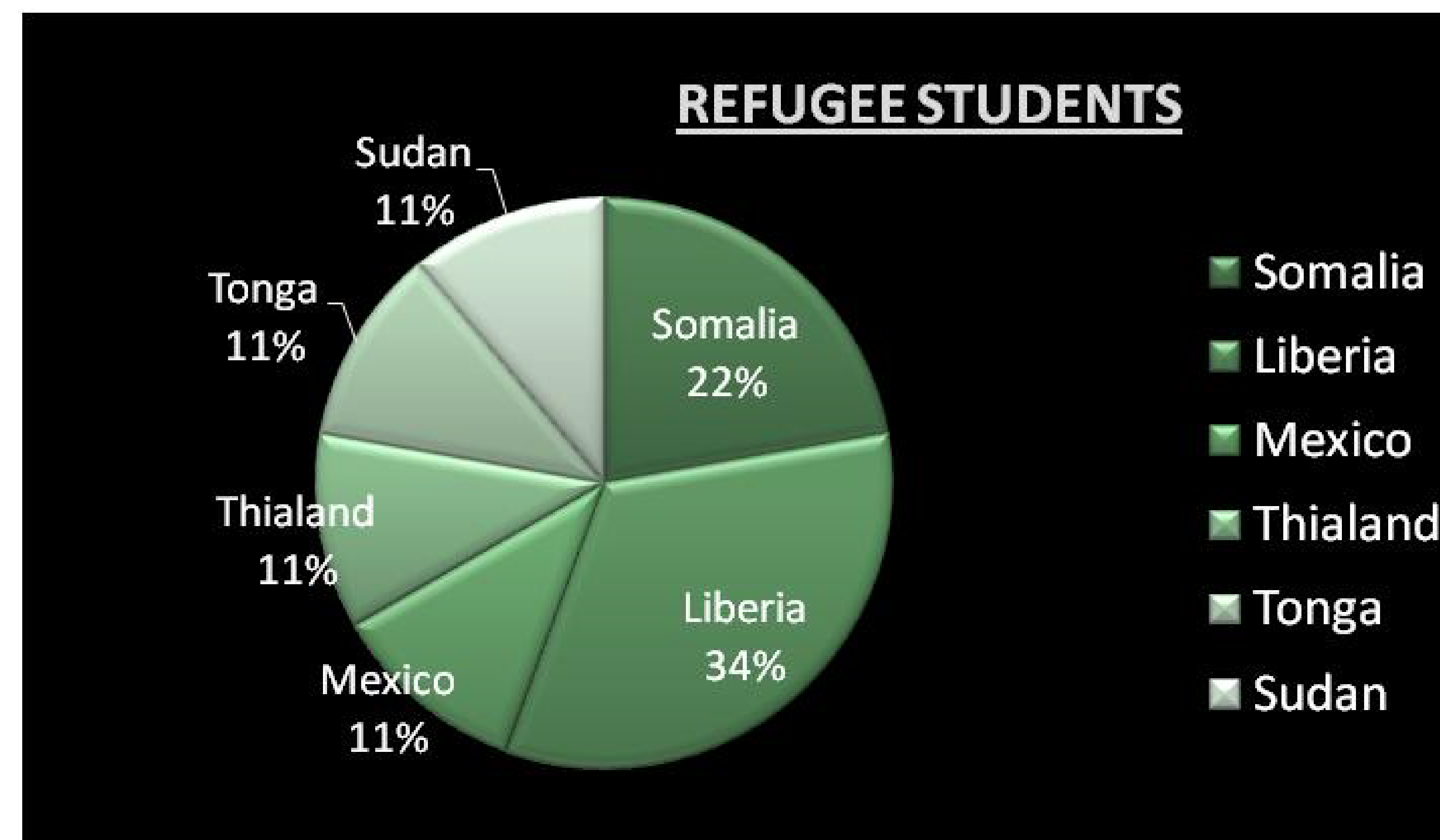
COLLEGE BOUND: Goal→
first generation college students

PROJECT

Mission Statement:

*To provide extended support to these students by helping them successfully achieve their scholarship as they succeed in high school so they can have the **opportunity** to succeed in college.*

REFUGEE STUDENTS



METHODS

- 9 students among 3 high schools
- Meet monthly as a group:** Peer & team support, report grades, discuss issues & progress
- Check up:** work with teachers to obtain progress reports, behaviors, & needed intervention
- One-on-One meetings with college mentor:** Help student identify concerns, talk to them about their goals & dreams, motivate them to develop a plan of action. Follow-up.
- University campus tours**

RESULTS

- Within the first term 2 students fell short of GPA standard
 - Throughout the semester 4 students needed serious intervention
 - 3 of 4 students made great progression
 - 5 students maintained GPA throughout the school year
 - All 9 reported that they benefited from advice and support from peers and team
 - All 9 gave positive feedback of monthly and one-on-one meetings
- “The students remind each other of the meeting weeks in advance. They treat it like Christmas!” -West high school ESL teacher***

FUTURE PLANS

- University student speakers: Refugee student success stories
- Add a new group of 8th graders every year
- Raise the GPA requirement to a 3.0 then 3.5